

SWK 658: Clinical Social Work Practice with Groups - Spring 2023

Journal #2

In terms of group process, I believe majority of Zoom group member has now decided to work seriously on attaining their individual goals. That although some of these goals were not verbally spoken or written from the start, they are now manifesting by the improvement of cooperation, collaboration, participation, reduced intensity of power struggle, and less antagonistic comments by some members. Managing self-regulation in times of conflicting events within the group has also been practiced. As individual goal has been slowly being worked out, the overall group goal is moving to a positive direction as well. This is done by bringing the group to practice subtle active listening, allowing each member's opinion to be heard, and voluntarily participation. Identifying a theme from a collective opinion, reaching consensus before final decision.

I believe the Zoom task group tonight has demonstrated how to possibly bring the two-opposing groups into finding a middle ground as an example from a racial and oppression context. For a group leader, I believe, such issue always needing to be handled with much sensitivity, empathy and deep understanding of culture and history. And not understanding stereotypical influence in the group can become a hindrance for the group's growth. For example, believing the concept that minority is always subjected to discrimination, while leaning into the concept of white privileges. As group leader, the techniques must always be to bring the group closer, rather than moving them away from each other.

There are changes happening all around us and globally fast enough. Even long time ago, I think the normal inclination of most human being from a less developed country is to

converge in a developed country like Unites States if not for economic opportunities, but to become safe from dangerous condition. Multiculturalism is I believe, inevitable. In such condition, diverse population from many countries, different walks of life are, I think, a consequential effect of human seeking to live. As a social worker and leader of a group, I believe it is my duty to embrace wholeheartedly diversity aiming to bring healing and cooperation to promote a common good.